6th March 1954]

SRI M. KALYANASUNDRAM :—" On a point of explanation, Sir. The Hon. the Chief Minister said that the Communist Party was suggesting that there should be a ban on the Muslim League. That was not at all our intention in putting this question."

Administration of special fees fund in schools.

* 64 Q.—SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the headmasters of secondary schools in the State have been invested with the powers of handling the special fees fund intended for purposes such as conducting literary societies, excursions, scouting, visual education and purchase of stationery, etc. : and

(*b*) if so, why the District Board, South Arcot, have taken the powers into their own hands?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) In the case of aided secondary schools, headmasters have been empowered to administer the special fee collections and rules have been framed in this regard. No definite instructions have been issued in the case of secondary schools under local bodies for the administration of the special fee collections. The question of framing definite rules for the purpose is separately under consideration.

" (*b*) Does not arise in view of the answer to clause (*a*) above."

SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN :—" Sir, in view of the fact that such withholding of powers from the headmasters frustrates the very object of the fund and ends in mere accumulation of money in the hands of the managements without benefiting the student population, will the Government direct the managements to restrict their authority only to the auditing and scrutiny of the accounts? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I shall consider that suggestion, Sir."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Sir, is the Hon. Minister for Education aware of the fact that there is a definite rule in the Madras Educational Rules which says that the Managements shall have no say in regard to these special fees except the headmasters, and that being the case, may I know why in the case of the South Arcot District Board schools, the District Board authorities were allowed to have a say in the disposal of these special fee collections? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, the rule referred to by the hon. Member applies to private managements. As far as local bodies are concerned, no definite rules have been framed. That question is under the consideration of the Government. I know that certain local bodies have absorbed the special fees into their general funds. We are aware of it and that is why the matter has been taken up for consideration. We shall issue definite instructions after considering the whole matter."